

~~TOP SECRET//NOFORN~~



From: OCA Subject: Due-Outs from HPSCI Coffee

Office of Congressional Affairs

Secure:           

Open:           

Date: 09/14/2012 11:29 AM

Cc:

DI OPA  
BCC  
NCS  
OCA  
CIA DIR  
OCA

This message is digitally signed.

Classification: ~~TOP SECRET//NOFORN~~



For the Committee:

1) "White Paper" on press guidance (OPA, OGC, DI, NE)

\*\*We've already spoken to OPA who will be coordinating with the WH as well

2) Paper on motivations for Green on Blue violence (OSA)

3) Contact State Legl Affairs for questions on document destruction at consulate (OCA)

For DCIA:

1) Cable(s) to            warning of protests linked to the film and response (NE)

2) Cable(s) to stations on 9/11 security (DS, NCS)

Please send Committee responses to OCA for 7th floor coord.

Please send DCIA responses to ODCIA.

Thank you!

OCA

Office of Congressional Affairs

Secure:           

Open:           

Classification: ~~TOP SECRET//NOFORN~~

~~TOP SECRET//NOFORN~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CIA OTA

Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Classified By: 2...

09/14/2012 03:19:00 PM

From:

To:

Cc:

CIA OTA  
NE  
NCS  
NCS  
CTC  
CIA FO  
CIA FO  
DIR  
OFA  
OCC  
Stephen W. Preston/STF/AGENCY@WMA,  
OCC

Date:

09/14/2012 03:19 PM

Subject:

Re: Looping ODNCS -- Re: Fw: FLASH coordination -- white paper for HPSCI Per DCIA Request

Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



Good point that it could be interpreted this way -- perhaps better stated that we know they participated in the protests. We do not know who was responsible for the deaths.

CIA OTA

Director, Office of Terrorism Analysis

secure:

open:

NE

Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Classified By: 2...

09/14/2012 03:16:33 PM

From:

To:

Cc:

NE  
NCS  
CIA OTA  
NCS  
CTC  
CIA FO  
DIR  
CIA  
OCC  
Stephen W. Preston/STF/AGENCY@WMA,  
OCC

Date:

09/14/2012 03:16 PM

Subject:

Re: Looping ODNCS -- Re: Fw: FLASH coordination -- white paper for HPSCI Per DCIA Request

Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

=====

Good question - I'll defer to <sup>CIA</sup><sub>OTA</sub> cc'd) given the CT angle.

(Added in OGC and OPA as well as FYI).

*Second tick says we know extremists with ties to AQ participated in the attack, which implies complicity in the deaths of the American officers. Do we know this?*

**[NCS]** Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Classified By: 2... 09/14/2012 02:52:57 PM

From: **[NCS]**  
To: **[NE]**  
Cc: **[CIA OTA NCS]** **[NCS]** **[NCS]** **[CTC]** **[CTC]** **[DIA]** **[OCA]**

Date: 09/14/2012 02:52 PM  
Subject: Re: Looping ODNCS - Re: Fw: FLASH coordination - white paper for HPSCI Per DCIA Request

**[Stephen W. Preston/STF/AGENCY@WMA]**

Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

**[REDACTED]**

=====

Second tick says we *know* extremists with ties to AQ *participated* in the attack, which implies complicity in the deaths of the American officers. Do we know this?

**[NE]** Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Classified By: 2... 09/14/2012 02:39:49 PM

From: **[NE]**  
To: **[NCS]** **[NCS]**  
Cc: **[NCS]** **[CTC]** **[CTC]** **[CIA OTA NCS]** **[DIA]** **[OCA]**

Date: 09/14/2012 02:39 PM  
Subject: Looping ODNCS - Re: Fw: FLASH coordination - white paper for HPSCI Per DCIA Request

**[Stephen W. Preston/STF/AGENCY@WMA]**

Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

**[REDACTED]**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

3

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CIA NE coords on the below paper, to include the earlier edits.

We have looped in ODNCS and others to ensure everyone has a chance to review given the urgency at which this is being requested.

For ODNCS - at this morning HPSCI coffee with DCIA, HPSCI members eagerly sought some sort of "white paper" they could use to reply to numerous media requests asking for comments on other inflammatory press articles regarding the Benghazi attacks.

*HPSCI has asked for unclassified points immediately that they can use in talking to the media. I have been asked to provide a bit on responsibility. NE is pulling together the final product. In addition to other topics, NE will add material about warnings we gave to Cairo prior to the demonstrations, as well as material on warnings we issued prior to 9/11 anniversary. Please take a quick look to see if you believe that this is A) accurate and B) unclass.*

For CTC/Legal, DJ asked that I send this to you and anybody you think needs to see in OGC to make sure that nothing we are saying here is likely to impact any potential future legal prosecution.

Thanks

CIA  
OTA

- *We believe based on currently available information that the attacks in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated.*
- *The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists with ties to al-Qa'ida participated in the attack.*
- *Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's facebook page aims to spread sharia in Libya and emphasizes the need for jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.*
- *The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.*
- *Since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.*
- *We are working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.*

CIA OTA

Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Classified By: 2...

09/14/2012 02:27:18 PM

From:

CIA OTA

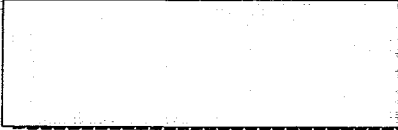
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

To: [redacted] *NE*  
Date: 09/14/2012 02:27 PM  
Subject: Fw: FLASH coordination -- white paper for HPSCI

Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



Sorry, sent to the wrong [redacted]..

*CIA OTA*  
Director, Office of Terrorism Analysis  
secure: [redacted]  
open: [redacted]

— Forwarded by *CIA OTA* on 09/14/2012 02:27 PM —

From: *CIA OTA*  
To: *NE*  
Date: 09/14/2012 12:49 PM  
Subject: Fw: FLASH coordination -- white paper for HPSCI

Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



I didn't ask NE/INT. Just CTC/INT.

Please see the one suggested addition from OGC.

Let me know if you need anything else. Also, please be sure that DI FO gets a copy.

*CIA OTA*  
Director, Office of Terrorism Analysis  
secure: [redacted]  
open: [redacted]

— Forwarded by *CIA OTA* on 09/14/2012 12:47 PM —

From: *OA OGC*  
To: *CIA OTA*  
Cc: *CTC, OGC, NE*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

5

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DI, OGC

Date: 09/14/2012 12:23 PM  
Subject: Re: FLASH coordination - white paper for HPSCI

Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

=====

hi CIA  
OTA - I've consulted with colleagues and the only statement that might have implications for future prosecution is the first bullet. recommend adding the text indicated to add some insulation. please let me know if you have any questions. thanks.

CIA OTA Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Classified By: 2... 09/14/2012 11:15:24 AM

From: CIA OTA  
To: CTC, OGC, NE, 31  
Cc:  

Date: 09/14/2012 11:15 AM  
Subject: FLASH coordination - white paper for HPSCI

Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

=====

HPSCI has asked for unclassified points immediately that they can use in talking to the media. I have been asked to provide a bit on responsibility. NE is pulling together the final product. In addition to other topics, NE will add material about warnings we gave to Cairo prior to the demonstrations, as well as material on warnings we issued prior to 9/11 anniversary. Please take a quick look to see if you believe that this is A) accurate and B) unclass.

For CTC/Legal, DI asked that I send this to you and anybody you think needs to see in OGC to make sure that nothing we are saying here is likely to impact any potential future legal prosecution.

Thanks

CIA OTA

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists with ties to al-Qa'ida participated in the attack.
- Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that the its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's facebook page aims to spread *sharia* in Libya and emphasizes the need for jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.
- The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- Since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
- We are working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

CIA-OTA  
Director, Office of Terrorism Analysis  
secure:   
open:

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Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CIA OPA

**From:** CIA OPA  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 11:17 AM  
**To:** Vietor, Tommy  
**Cc:** Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS  
**Subject:** Congressional talking points en route this afternoon for coord

Tommy:

Echoing my voicemail to you:

You should be seeing some "White Paper" talking points from us this afternoon for coordination. They are for Congressional use, per their request, re Benghazi issues.

Thanks,

CIA  
OPA

Chief, Media Relations  
CIA Office of Public Affairs

CIA OPA

From:

Sent:

To:

Subject:

Attachments:

OPA

Friday, September 14, 2012 3:00 PM

CIA OPA

Cleaned HPSCI TPs

Cleaned HPSCI Talking Points for Use with the Media.doc

## **HPSCI Talking Points for Use with the Media**

**14 September 2012**

- We believe based on currently available information that the attacks in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated.
- The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists with ties to al-Qa'ida participated in the attack.
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- The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- Since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
- We are working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizenis.

CIA  
OPA

From:

CIA OPA

Sent:

Friday, September 14, 2012 3:04 PM

To:

Vietor, Tommy, Rhodes, Benjamin J.,

NSS PRESS

Cc:

WH PRESS

CIA OPA

Subject:

HPSCI talking points for review

Colleagues:

HPSCI has requested talking points from the DCIA for use with the media.

Please review the below and respond with your comments ASAP.

Thanks very much,

CIA  
OPA

Chief, Media Relations

CIA Office of Public Affairs

**HPSCI Talking Points for Use with the Media**  
14 September 2012

We believe based on currently available information that the attacks in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated.

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- We are working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.



CIA OPA

---

From: [redacted]  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 3:27 PM  
To: [redacted] Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS  
Cc: [redacted] WH PRESS  
Subject: RE: HPSCI talking points for review

Colleagues:

We still have a number of components coordinating here on these points and we will have further edits. We are multi-tasking due to the time constraints.

I'll send you an updated version around 1600 today.

Thanks,

CIA OPA

---

From: [redacted] CIA OPA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 3:04 PM  
To: Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS, WH PRESS  
Cc: [redacted] CIA OPA  
Subject: HPSCI talking points for review

Colleagues:

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Thanks very much,

CIA OPA

Chief, Media Relations  
CIA Office of Public Affairs

**HPSCI Talking Points for Use with the Media**  
14 September 2012

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- The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists with ties to al-Qa'ida participated in the attack.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



From: Stephen W. Preston  
General Counsel

Date: 09/14/2012 04:20 PM

Subject: Re: Looping ODNCS – Re: Fw: FLASH coordination –  
white paper for HPSCI Per DCIA Request

To:

Cc:

OGC CIA FO  
CIA OTA NE NCS  
NCS NCS  
CTC

This message is digitally signed.

Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Folks, I know there is a hurry to get this out, but we need to hold it long enough to ascertain whether providing it conflicts with express instructions from NSS/DOJ/FBI that, in light of the criminal investigation, we are not to generate statements with assessments as to who did this, etc. – even internally, not to mention for public release. I am copying CIA FO who may be more familiar with those instructions and the tasking arising from the HPSCI coffee.

OGC

Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Classified By: 2...

09/14/2012 03:29:32 PM

From:

To:

Cc:

OGC  
CIA OTA  
NCS  
NCS, CTC  
CTC  
CIA FO  
DIA  
DIR CIAOCA  
DI NCS  
Stephen W. Preston/STF/AGENCY@WMA  
CIA OPA

Date: 09/14/2012 03:29 PM

Subject: Re: Looping ODNCS – Re: Fw: FLASH coordination – white paper for HPSCI Per DCIA Request

Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

OGC coords. on the TPs, including the change to the second tick noted by CIA OPA

All content within this email, including attachments and email threads, carry the controls  
even when not specified in the classification line unless otherwise noted.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCLASSIFIED



From: CIA OPA Subject: **HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for review before**  
Chief, Media Relations Branch **White House**  
Office of Public Affairs To: CIA FO  
Date: 09/14/2012 04:42 PM Cc: Dir, DDCIA-FO, OPA

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

CIA FO

For review before sending to the White House:

CIA OPA

### **HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media**

**14 September 2012**

•The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September we warned of social media reports calling for a demonstration in front of the Embassy and that jihadists were threatening to break into the Embassy.

•The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

•Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's Facebook page aims to spread sharia in Libya and emphasizes the need for jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.

•The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

•The Agency has produced numerous pieces on the threat of extremists linked to al-Qaeda in Benghazi and eastern Libya. These noted that, since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.

•The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

CIA-OPA

Chief, Media Relations Branch, Office of Public Affairs

Secure:

Open:

=====  
Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

CIA OPA

From: Viator, Tommy, [Thomas\_F\_Viator@who.eop.gov]  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 4:57 PM

To: CIA OPA Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS

Cc:

Subject: RE: HPSCI talking points for review

CIA OPA is there an updated version of this I can circulate internally?

From: CIA OPA

Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 3:27 PM

To: CIA OPA Viator, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS

Cc: CIA OCA

Subject: RE: HPSCI talking points for review

Colleagues:

We still have a number of components coordinating here on these points and we will have further edits. We are multi-tasking due to the time constraints.

I'll send you an updated version around 1600 today.

Thanks,

CIA OPA

From: CIA OPA

Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 3:04 PM

To: Viator, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS

Cc: CIA OCA

Subject: HPSCI talking points for review

Colleagues:

HPSCI has requested talking points from the DCIA for use with the media.

Please review the below and respond with your comments ASAP.

Thanks very much,

CIA  
OPA

Chief, Media Relations  
CIA Office of Public Affairs

HPSCI Talking Points for Use with the Media  
14 September 2012

CIA OPA

---

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 5:04 PM  
**To:** Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted]

**Cc:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: HPSCI talking points for review

Tommy:

Very sorry for the delay. We've been steadily working on them and they are now at the final stop before coming to you soon. I'll rush them to you as soon as possible.

CIA OPA

---

**From:** Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas.F.Vietor@who.eop.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 4:57 PM  
**To:** [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted]  
**Cc:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: HPSCI talking points for review

[redacted] is there an updated version of this I can circulate internally?

---

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 3:27 PM  
**To:** [redacted] Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted]  
**Cc:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: HPSCI talking points for review

Colleagues:

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**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 3:04 PM  
**To:** Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted]  
**Cc:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** HPSCI talking points for review

Colleagues:

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Please review the below and respond with your comments ASAP.

CIA OPA

---

From: [redacted]  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:05 PM  
To: [redacted]  
Cc: [redacted]  
Subject: RE: HPSCI talking points for review.

Should we include Shawn Turner on the coord for the points?

---

From: [redacted]  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 3:27 PM  
To: [redacted] Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted]  
Cc: [redacted]  
Subject: RE: HPSCI talking points for review

Colleagues:

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I'll send you an updated version around 1600 today.

Thanks,

[redacted]

---

From: [redacted]  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 3:04 PM  
To: Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted]  
Cc: [redacted]  
Subject: HPSCI talking points for review.

Colleagues:

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Thanks very much,

[redacted]

Chief, Media Relations  
CIA Office of Public Affairs

HPSCI Talking Points for Use with the Media  
14 September 2012

CIA OPA

**From:** CIA OPA  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 5:09 PM  
**To:** OA  
**Cc:** CIA OCA  
**Subject:** RE: HPSCI talking points for review

Thanks for the reminder. Yes, I told him we would.

CIA OPA

**From:** OA  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 5:05 PM  
**To:** CIA OPA  
**Cc:** CIA OCA  
**Subject:** RE: HPSCI talking points for review

Should we include Shawn Turner on the coord for the points?

**From:** CIA OPA  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 3:27 PM  
**To:** CIA OPA; Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.;  
**Cc:** CIA OCA  
**Subject:** RE: HPSCI talking points for review

NSS PRESS, WH PRESS

Colleagues:

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**From:** CIA OPA  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 3:04 PM  
**To:** Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.;  
**Cc:** CIA OCA  
**Subject:** HPSCI talking points for review

NSS PRESS, WH PRESS

Colleagues:

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Thanks very much,

CIA OPA



CIA OPA

From: CIA OPA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:09 PM  
To: Victor, Tommy Rhodes, Benjamin J.; CIA PRESS  
Cc: CIA OPA, Shawn S Turner  
Subject: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

Apologies for the delay.

Please review this revised version:

**HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media**  
**14 September 2012**

- The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September we warned of social media reports calling for a demonstration in front of the Embassy and that jihadists were threatening to break into the Embassy.
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- The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- The Agency has produced numerous pieces on the threat of extremists linked to al-Qaeda in Benghazi and eastern Libya. These noted that, since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
- The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

Thanks,

CIA  
OPA

Chief, Media Relations

CIA OPA

**From:** Vietor, Tommy [Thomas F. Vietor]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 5:10 PM  
**To:** CIA OPA Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS  
WN PRESS  
**Cc:** CIA OPA Shawn S. Turner  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Thanks. Will vet here now.

**From:** CIA OPA  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 5:09 PM  
**To:** Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WN PRESS  
**Cc:** CIA OPA Shawn S. Turner  
**Subject:** Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

Apologies for the delay.

Please review this revised version:

**HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media**  
14 September 2012

- The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September we warned of social media reports calling for a demonstration in front of the Embassy and that jihadists were threatening to break into the Embassy.
- The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.
- Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's Facebook page aims to spread sharia in Libya and emphasizes the need for jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.
- The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- The Agency has produced numerous pieces on the threat of extremists linked to al-Qaeda in Benghazi and eastern Libya. These noted that, since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
- The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

CIA OPA

From: CIA OPA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:20 PM  
To: FBI PRESS  
Cc: CIA OPA  
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

FYI.

These are talking points for HPSCI's use with the media. They asked the DCIA for them today.

White House is reviewing and DNI is aware.

CIA  
OPA

Chief, Media Relations  
CIA Office of Public Affairs

From: CIA OPA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:09 PM  
To: Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS  
Cc: CIA OPA Shawn S Turner  
Subject: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

Apologies for the delay.

Please review this revised version:

**HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media**  
**14 September 2012**

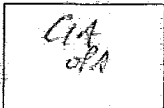
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Thanks,



Chief, Media Relations  
CIA Office of Public Affairs



CIA OPA

**From:** CIA OPA  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:04 PM  
**To:** CIA OPA, FBI PRESS  
**Cc:** CIA OPA  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

I'm told that Chairman Rogers intends to use these talking points on Sunday.

Kindly respond to this note indicating that you've reviewed these talking points ASAP.

Thanks,

CIA OPA

**From:** CIA OPA  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 5:20 PM  
**To:** FBI PRESS  
**Cc:** CIA OPA  
**Subject:** FW: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

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Chief, Media Relations  
CIA Office of Public Affairs

**From:** CIA OPA  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 5:09 PM  
**To:** Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS  
**Cc:** CIA OPA, Shawn S Turner  
**Subject:** Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

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Please review this revised version:

CIA OPA

**From:** Vietor, Tommy [Thomas F. Vietor]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:21 PM  
**To:** CIA OPA Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS  
CIA OPA  
**Cc:** CIA OPA Shawn S Turner  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

CIA OPA I know you're trying to move these fast so here's an initial round of edits. One small tweak in sentence 3 of bullet 1 for added clarity. Denis would also like to make sure the highlighted portions are full coordinated with the State Department in the event that they get inquiries.

**HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media**  
14 September 2012

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**From:** CIA OPA  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 5:09 PM  
**To:** Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, CIA PRESS  
**Cc:** CIA OPA Shawn Turner  
**Subject:** Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

CIA OPA

From: CIA OPA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:24 PM  
To: Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS  
Cc: CIA, WH PRESS  
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Thanks very much for your prompt response, Tommy.

Will send over to STATE.

CIA OPA

From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas\_F\_Vietor@cia.gov]  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:21 PM  
To: CIA OPA; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS  
Cc: CIA, WH PRESS, OCA  
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review.

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CIA OPA

From: CIA OPA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:33 PM  
To: nulanv; STATE OCA, STATE PA  
Cc: CIA OCA  
Subject: HPSCI Talking Points for review

Colleagues:

HPSCI requested these talkers from the DCIA this morning.

The White House has reviewed them and wanted to ensure that you saw them – especially the portions highlighted by the White House.

Kindly indicate that you have reviewed these points. We are planning on transmitting them to the Hill tonight.

Thanks,

CIA OPA

**HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media**  
**14 September 2012**

- The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September we warned of social media reports calling for a demonstration in front of Embassy CAIRO and that jihadists were threatening to break into the Embassy.
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- The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.



CIA OPA

**From:** Shawn S Turner  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:41 PM  
**To:** CIA OPA; Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.;  
**Cc:** WH PRESS, CIA OCA  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

NSS PRESS

I've been very careful not to say we issued a warning. Any concerns with adjusting the first highlighted line to say:

- On 10 September we notified Embassy Cairo of social media reports calling for a demonstration and encouraging jihadists to break into the Embassy.

**From:** CIA OPA  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:24 PM  
**To:** Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.;  
**Cc:** CIA OCA; Shawn S Turner  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

NSS PRESS, WH PRESS

Thanks very much for your prompt response, Tommy.

Will send over to STATE.

CIA OPA

**From:** Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas.F.Vietor@]   
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:21 PM  
**To:** CIA OPA; Rhodes, Benjamin J.;  
**Cc:** CIA OCA; Shawn S Turner  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

NSS PRESS, WH PRESS

CIA OPA I know you're trying to move these fast so here's an initial round of edits. One small tweak in sentence 3 of bullet 1 for added clarity. Denis would also like to make sure the highlighted portions are full coordinated with the State Department in the event that they get inquiries.

**HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media**  
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**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:43 PM  
**To:** Shawn S Turner; [redacted] Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS  
[redacted] WH PRESS  
[redacted] Nuland, Victoria J.; [redacted] STATE PA  
**Cc:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Looping in State. I think that's a good adjustment.

**From:** Shawn S Turner  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:41 PM  
**To:** [redacted] Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS, WH PRESS  
**Cc:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:24 PM  
**To:** Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS, WH PRESS  
**Cc:** [redacted] Shawn S Turner  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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**From:** Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas.F.Vietor@redacted]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:21 PM  
**To:** [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS, WH PRESS  
**Cc:** [redacted] Shawn S Turner  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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**HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media**  
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- The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available

CIA OPA

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**From:** Vietor, Tommy [Thomas F. Vietor]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:48 PM  
**To:** CIA OPA; Shawn S Turner; CIA OPA; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS  
NSS PRESS, WH PRESS; nulandvj; STATE PA  
**Cc:** CIA OCA  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review.

FYI, Brennan will have edits. Im waiting for those.

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**From:** CIA OPA  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:43 PM  
**To:** Shawn Turner; CIA OPA; Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS  
WH PRESS; nulandvj; STATE PA  
**Cc:** CIA OCA  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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**From:** Shawn S Turner  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:41 PM  
**To:** CIA OPA; Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS  
**Cc:** CIA OCA  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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**From:** CIA OPA  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:24 PM  
**To:** Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS  
**Cc:** CIA OPA; Shawn S Turner  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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CIA OPA

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**From:** Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas F. Vietor]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:21 PM  
**To:** CIA OPA; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS  
**Cc:** CIA OCA; Shawn S Turner  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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**From:** Vietor, Tommy [Thomas F. Vietor]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:52 PM  
**To:** [CIA OPA] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [NSS PRESS]  
[CIA OPA] [WHP PRESS]  
**Cc:** [CIA OCA] Shawn S Turner  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

John's edits are below. Mostly in bullet 2.

I like the edit Shawn sent around.

**From:** Vietor, Tommy  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:21 PM  
**To:** [CIA OPA] Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [NSS PRESS, WHP PRESS]  
**Cc:** [CIA OCA] Shawn.Turner@  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review.

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CIA OPA

From: [redacted]  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:53 PM  
To: Victor, Tommy, Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS  
Cc: [redacted] WH PRESS  
Subject: Shawn S Turner  
RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Excellent. Will implement.

Thanks, Tommy

CIA  
OPA

From: Victor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas\_F\_Victor@redacted]  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:52 PM  
To: [redacted] ; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS, WH PRESS  
Cc: [redacted] Shawn S Turner  
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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To: [redacted] CIA OPA ; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS, WH PRESS  
Cc: [redacted] CIA OCA Shawn Turner  
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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CIA OPA

---

**From:** Nuland, Victoria J [nulandvj]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 7:16 PM  
**To:** NSC Deputy Press Secretary; CIA OPA Shawn S Turner; CIA OPA Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS, STATE PA  
**Cc:** CIA OPA  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Are these for open or closed hearing? If open, the line about "knowing" there were extremists among the demonstrators will come back to us at podium – how do we know, who were they, etc... So I'll need answers to those if we deploy that line, tx.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

---

**From:** Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas\_F\_Vietor]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:48 PM  
**To:** CIA OPA Shawn Turner; CIA OPA Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS  
WH PRESS Nuland, Victoria J; STATE PA  
**Cc:** CIA OCA  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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**From:** CIA OPA  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:43 PM  
**To:** Shawn Turner; CIA OPA Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS  
WH PRESS, nulandvj; STATE PA  
CIA OCA  
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**From:** Shawn S Turner  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:41 PM  
**To:** CIA OPA Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS  
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**From:** CIA OPA  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:24 PM  
**To:** Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS

CIA OPA

**From:** FBI PRESS  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 7:18 PM  
**To:** FBI PRESS  
**Cc:** CIA OCA  
**Subject:** Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

CIA OPA we are taking a look and I will respond back.

**From:** CIA OPA  
**To:** CIA OPA, FBI PRESS  
**Cc:** CIA OCA  
**Sent:** Fri Sep 14 18:04:08 2012  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

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Kindly respond to this note indicating that you've reviewed these talking points ASAP.

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**From:** CIA OPA  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 5:20 PM  
**To:** FBI PRESS  
**Cc:** CIA OCA  
**Subject:** FW: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

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White House is reviewing and DNI is aware.

CIA OPA

Chief, Media Relations  
CIA Office of Public Affairs

**From:** CIA OPA  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 5:09 PM  
**To:** Victor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; JSS PRESS, WH PRESS

CIA  
OPA

**From:** [redacted] CIA OPA  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 7:29 PM  
**To:** [redacted] FO  
**Cc:** [redacted] CIA OCA  
**Subject:** FW: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Guys -- see Toria's question below. Can we soften this a bit?

---

**From:** Nuland, Victoria J [mailto:nulandvj@state.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 7:16 PM  
**To:** NSC Deputy Press Secretary; [redacted] CIA OPA; Shawn S. Turner; [redacted] CIA OPA; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS; [redacted] WH PRESS; [redacted] STATE PA  
**Cc:** [redacted] CIA OCA  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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**From:** Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas.F.Vietor@state.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:48 PM  
**To:** [redacted] CIA OPA; Shawn Turner; [redacted] CIA OPA; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS; [redacted] WH PRESS; Nuland, Victoria J.; [redacted] STATE PA  
**Cc:** [redacted] CIA OCA  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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**From:** [redacted] CIA OPA  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:43 PM  
**To:** Shawn Turner; [redacted] CIA OPA; Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS; [redacted] WH PRESS; [redacted] nulandvj; [redacted] STATE PA  
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**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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**From:** Shawn S Turner  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:41 PM  
**To:** [redacted] CIA OPA; Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS; [redacted] WH PRESS  
**Cc:** [redacted] CIA OCA  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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OPA

---

**From:** Nuland, Victoria J [nulandvj@ ]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 7:39 PM  
**To:** Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; CIA OPA Shawn S Turner;  
CIA OPA Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS  
NSA PRESS, STATE PA Sullivan, Jacob J; Adams, David S  
CIA OCA  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I just had a convo with CIA OPA and I now understand that these are being prepared to give to Members of Congress to use with the media.

On that basis, I have serious concerns about all the parts highlighted below, and arming members of Congress to start making assertions to the media that we ourselves are not making because we don't want to prejudice the investigation.

In same vein, why do we want Hill to be fingering Ansar al Sharia, when we aren't doing that ourselves until we have investigation results... and the penultimate point could be abused by Members to beat the State Department for not paying attention to Agency warnings so why do we want to feed that either? Concerned...

+Jake Sullivan, Dave Adams here

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

---

**From:** Nuland, Victoria J  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 7:16 PM  
**To:** NSC Deputy Press Secretary; CIA OPA Shawn Turner; CIA OPA Rhodes, Benjamin J.;  
NSS PRESS, NSA PRESS, STATE PA  
CIA OCA  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Are these for open or closed hearing? If open, the line about "knowing" there were extremists among the demonstrators will come back to us at podium – how do we know, who were they, etc... So I'll need answers to those if we deploy that line, tx.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

---

**From:** Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas\_F\_Vietor@ ]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:48 PM  
**To:** CIA OPA Shawn Turner; CIA OPA Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS

CIA  
OPA

From: [redacted] FBI PRESS  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:51 PM  
To: [redacted] CIA OPA [redacted] FBI PRESS  
Cc: [redacted] CIA OPA  
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

CIA  
OPA in coordination with CTD, we have some concerns:

1. The accuracy of the sentence of the first bullet point which states "On 10 September we warned of social media reports calling for a demonstration in front of the Embassy and that jihadists were threatening to break into the Embassy." And-- who is the "we" that is referenced?

2. We recommend editing the last sentence in the second bullet point to "That being said, there are indications that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations."

I will be free to discuss in about 20 minutes if necessary.

CIA  
OPA

From: [redacted] FBI PRESS  
To: [redacted] CIA OPA [redacted] FBI PRESS  
Cc: [redacted] CIA OCA  
Sent: Fri Sep 14 19:17:51 2012  
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

CIA  
OPA - we are taking a look and I will respond back.

From: [redacted] CIA OPA  
To: [redacted] CIA OPA [redacted] FBI PRESS  
Cc: [redacted] CIA OCA  
Sent: Fri Sep 14 18:04:08 2012  
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

I'm told that Chairman Rogers intends to use these talking points on Sunday.

Kindly respond to this note indicating that you've reviewed these talking points ASAP.

Thanks,

CIA  
OPA

From: [redacted] CIA OPA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:20 PM  
To: [redacted] FBI PRESS  
Cc: [redacted] CIA OPA  
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

CIA  
OPA

**From:** CIA OPA  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 7:52 PM  
**To:** Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary, Shawn S Turner, CIA OPA Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Meehan, Bernadette; AESS PRESS, WH PRESS, STATE PA Sullivan, Jacob J; Adams, David S; FBI PRESS  
**Cc:** FBI PRESS, CIA OPA  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

On that very issue; Toria, we are waiting to hear back from the Bureau. CIA OPA

**From:** Nuland, Victoria J [mailto:nulandv] CIA OPA  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 7:39 PM  
**To:** Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; CIA OPA Shawn S Turner, CIA OPA Rhodes, Benjamin J.; AESS PRESS, WH PRESS, STATE PA Sullivan, Jacob J; Adams, David S  
**Cc:** CIA OPA  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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In same vein, why do we want Hill to be fingering Ansar al Sharia, when we aren't doing that ourselves until we have investigation results... and the penultimate point could be abused by Members to beat the State Department for not paying attention to Agency warnings so why do we want to feed that either? Concerned...

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**From:** Nuland, Victoria J  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 7:16 PM  
**To:** NSC Deputy Press Secretary; CIA OPA Shawn Turner, CIA OPA Rhodes, Benjamin J.; AESS PRESS, WH PRESS, STATE PA  
**Cc:** CIA OPA  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

CIA OPA

---

**From:** Adams, David S [AdamsDS@ ]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 8:39 PM  
**To:** Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; CIA OPA Shawn S Turner;  
CIA OPA Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS  
WH PRESS, STATE PA Sullivan, Jacob J  
**Cc:** CIA OCA  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I'm with Toria. The last bullet especially will read to members like we had been repeatedly warned.

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**From:** Nuland, Victoria J  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 7:39 PM  
**To:** Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; CIA OPA Shawn Turner; CIA OPA  
Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS, WH PRESS, STATE PA Sullivan, Jacob J;  
Adams, David S  
**Cc:** CIA OCA  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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**From:** Nuland, Victoria J  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 7:16 PM  
**To:** NSC Deputy Press Secretary; CIA OPA Shawn Turner; CIA OPA Rhodes, Benjamin J.;  
NSS PRESS, WH PRESS, STATE PA  
**Cc:** CIA OCA  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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## STATE STAFF ASST.

To: Vietor, Tommy [Thomas\_F\_Vietor@]  
Friday, September 14, 2012 8:58 PM  
Nuland, Victoria J; Sullivan, Jacob J; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; **STATE PA**  
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

We will use these too

-----Original Message-----

From: Nuland, Victoria J [nulandvj@]  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 08:55 PM Eastern Standard Time  
To: Vietor, Tommy; Sullivan, Jacob J; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; **State PA**  
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

These are points for Congress to use w press. Shdnt they be consistent with our own public lines if we are recommending them?

From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas\_F\_Vietor@]  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 08:43 PM  
To: Sullivan, Jacob J; Rhodes, Benjamin J. <Benjamin\_J\_Rhodes@>  
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review  
**> STATE PA ; Nuland, Victoria J**

There is massive disinformation out there, in particular with Congress. They all think it was premeditated based on inaccurate assumptions or briefings. So I think this is a response to not only a tasking from the house intel committee but also NSC guidance that we need to brief members/press and correct the record

-----Original Message-----

From: Sullivan, Jacob J [SullivanJJ@]  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 08:40 PM Eastern Standard Time  
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Vietor, Tommy; **STATE PA**, Nuland, Victoria J  
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Skinnying list. I do not understand the nature of this exercise. And some of the statements below are new by me. Can we have a conversation before this goes out?

From: Adams, David S  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 8:39 PM  
To: Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; **CIA OPA**; Shawn.Turner@c  
Rhodes, Benjamin J.; **NSS, WH PRESS**; **STATE PA**; Sullivan, Jacob J  
Cc: **CIA OCA**  
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I'm with Toria. The last bullet especially will read to members like we had been repeatedly warned.

**From:** Nuland, Victoria J

**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 7:39 PM

**To:** Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; *CIA OPA*; *Shawn.Turner@*; *CIA OPA*; **STATE PA**; Sullivan, Jacob J; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; **NSS, WH PRESS**

Adams, David S

**Cc:** **CIA OCA**

**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

*CIA OPA*  
I just had a convo with *CIA OPA*, and I now understand that these are being prepared to give to Members of Congress to use with the media.

On that basis, I have serious concerns about all the parts highlighted below, and arming members of Congress to start making assertions to the media that we ourselves are not making because we don't want to prejudice the investigation.

In same vein, why do we want Hill to be fingering Ansar al Sharia, when we aren't doing that ourselves until we have investigation results... and the penultimate point could be abused by Members to beat the State Department for not paying attention to Agency warnings so why do we want to feed that either? Concerned...

+Jake Sullivan, Dave Adams here

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

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**From:** Nuland, Victoria J

**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 7:16 PM

**To:** NSC Deputy Press Secretary; *CIA OPA*; *Shawn.Turner@*; *CIA OPA*; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; **NSS, WH PRESS**; **STATE PA**

**Cc:** **CIA OCA**

**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Are these for open or closed hearing? If open, the line about "knowing" there were extremists among the demonstrators will come back to us at podium – how do we know, who were they, etc... So I'll need answers to those if we deploy that line, tx.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

---

**From:** Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas.F.Vietor@]

**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:48 PM

**To:** *CIA OPA*; *Shawn.Turner@*; *CIA OPA*; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; **NSS PRESS**; **WH PRESS**; Nuland, Victoria J; **STATE PA**

**Cc:** **CIA OCA**

**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

FYI, Brennan will have edits. Im waiting for those.

CIA OPA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:43 PM  
To: Shawn.Turner@CIA.OPA; Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS PRESS,  
WH PRESS  
Cc: CIA OCA  
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review  
nulandvj@STATE.PA

Looping in State. I think that's a good adjustment.

From: Shawn S Turner  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:41 PM  
To: CIA OPA; Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS, WH PRESS  
Cc: CIA OCA  
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I've been very careful not to say we issued a warning. Any concerns with adjusting the first highlighted line to say:

- On 10 September we notified Embassy Cairo of social media reports calling for a demonstration and encouraging jihadists to break into the Embassy.

From: CIA OPA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:24 PM  
To: Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS, WH PRESS  
Cc: CIA OCA; Shawn S Turner  
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Thanks very much for your prompt response, Tommy.

Will send over to STATE.

CIA OPA

From: Vietor, Tommy [mailto:Thomas.F.Vietor@CIA.OPA]  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 6:21 PM  
To: CIA OPA; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS, WH PRESS  
Cc: CIA OCA; Shawn S Turner  
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

CIA OPA  
I know you're trying to move these fast so here's an initial round of edits. One small tweak in sentence 3 of bullet 1 for added clarity. Denis would also like to make sure the highlighted portions are full coordinated with the State Department in the event that they get inquiries.

#### HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media 14 September 2012

- The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September we warned of social media reports calling for a

demonstration in front of Embassy **CAIRO** and that jihadists were threatening to break into the Embassy. (this is ok as changed above...)

- The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.
- Initial press reporting linked the attack to Ansar al-Sharia. The group has since released a statement that its leadership did not order the attacks, but did not deny that some of its members were involved. Ansar al-Sharia's Facebook page aims to spread sharia in Libya and emphasizes the need for jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.
- The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- The Agency has produced numerous pieces on the threat of extremists linked to al-Qaeda in Benghazi and eastern Libya. These noted that, since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
- The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

---

From: CIA OPA 1  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 5:09 PM  
To: Vietor, Tommy; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; **NSS, WH PRESS**  
Cc: **CIA OCA** Shawn.Turner@  
Subject: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Colleagues:

Apologies for the delay.

Please review this revised version:

**HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media**  
14 September 2012

- The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September we warned of social media reports calling for a demonstration in front of the Embassy and that jihadists were threatening to break into the Embassy.
- The crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals from across many sectors of Libyan society. The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence. That being said, we do know that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.
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Facebook page aims to spread sharia in Libya and emphasizes the need for jihad to counter what it views as false interpretations of Islam, according to an open source study.

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- The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

Thanks,

CIA  
OPA

Chief, Media Relations  
CIA Office of Public Affairs

CIA OPA

From: CIA OPA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:15 PM  
To: CIA OPA  
Cc: CIA OPA  
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI taking points

Here's where we stand as of this hour.

Everyone has submitted coordination comments.

The State Department had major reservations with much or most of the document. We revised the document with their concerns in mind. The latest version is below, as sent to State.

CIA OPA

From: CIA OPA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 8:59 PM  
To: nulanovj  
Cc: CIA OPA, CIA OPA  
Subject: Revised HPSCI taking points

Toria:

We further discussed the HPSCI talking points with your comments and concerns in mind.

The FBI did not have major concerns with the points and offered only a couple of minor suggestions.

Here's the latest version of the points. Please let us know your thoughts ASAP.

Thanks,

CIA OPA

**HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media**  
14 September 2012

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- The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence, although the crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals. That being said, there are indications that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

CIA OPA

From: [redacted] FBI PRESS  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:19 PM  
To: [redacted] CIA OPA; nulandvj@ [redacted]; Thomas F. Vietor [redacted]; Shawn S Turner; [redacted] CIA OPA; Benjamin J. Rhodes [redacted] NSS PRESS  
[redacted] NSS PRESS, WH PRESS, STATE PA  
Cc: SullivanJJ [redacted]; AdamsDS [redacted] FBI PRESS  
Subject: [redacted] CIA OPA  
Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Just a question- but separate from the FBI concerns, has DOJ, provided input? They will have to deal with the the prosecution and related legal matters surrounding the federal investigation.

From: [redacted] CIA OPA  
To: nulandvj [redacted]; <nulandvj@ [redacted]>; Thomas F. Vietor [redacted]; Thomas F. Vietor [redacted]  
Shawn.Turner [redacted]; Shawn.Turner [redacted] CIA OPA  
Benjamin J. Rhodes [redacted]; <Benjamin J. Rhodes [redacted]> NSS PRESS  
[redacted] NSS PRESS, WH PRESS, STATE PA  
SullivanJJ@ [redacted]  
<SullivanJJ@ [redacted]>; AdamsDS [redacted]; <AdamsDS@ [redacted]> FBI PRESS  
[redacted] CIA OPA

Sent: Fri Sep 14 19:52:25 2012

Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

On that very issue, Toria, we are waiting to hear back from the Bureau. CIA OPA

From: Nuland, Victoria J [mailto:nulandvj@ [redacted]]  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:39 PM  
To: Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; [redacted] CIA OPA; Shawn S Turner [redacted] CIA OPA; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; [redacted] NSS PRESS, WH PRESS, STATE PA; Sullivan, Jacob J; Adams, David S  
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*CIA OPA*

---

**From:** Nuland, Victoria J [nulandv]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 9:24 PM  
**To:** *CIA OPA*  
**Cc:** *STATE PA*, *CIA OPA*, *CIA OCA*  
**Subject:** Re: Revised HPSCI taking points

These don't resolve all my issues or those of my building leadership. They are consulting w NSS.

**From:** *CIA OPA*  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 08:58 PM  
**To:** Nuland, Victoria J  
**Cc:** *STATE PA*, *CIA OPA*, *CIA OCA*  
**Subject:** Revised HPSCI taking points

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**14 September 2012**

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## STATE STAFF ASST.

TO: Nuland, Victoria J  
FROM: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:24 PM  
SUBJECT: Sullivan, Jacob J  
FW: Revised HPSCI taking points

Fysa

From: Nuland, Victoria J  
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- CIA DPA  
Chief, Media Relations  
CIA Office of Public Affairs

**From:** Sullivan, Jacob J [SullivanJJ]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 9:25 PM  
**To:** Adams, David S; Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Shawn S Turner; Benjamin J. Rhodes  
**Cc:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I spoke with Tommy. We'll work through this in the morning and get comments back.

**From:** Adams, David S  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 08:38 PM  
**To:** Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary; Shawn Turner; Benjamin J. Rhodes  
**Cc:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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+Jake Sullivan, Dave Adams here

.is email is UNCLASSIFIED.

CIA OPA

**From:** Viator, Tommy [Thomas\_F\_Viator]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 9:26 PM  
**To:** CIA OPA, FBI Press, CIA OPA, 'nulandvj, Shawn S Turner, Rhodes, Benjamin J., WH Press, State PA, SullivanJJ, AdamsDS, FBI Press  
**Cc:** CIA OPA  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Given the DOJ equities and States desire to run some traps, safe to assume we can hold on this until tomorrow?

-----Original Message-----

**From:** FBI Press  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 09:19 PM Eastern Standard Time  
**To:** CIA OPA, 'nulandvj, Viator, Tommy, Shawn Turner, CIA OPA, Rhodes, Benjamin J., NSS Press, WH Press, State PA, SullivanJJ, AdamsDS, FBI Press  
**Cc:** CIA OCA  
**Subject:** Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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**From:** CIA OPA  
**To:** nulandvj, 'nulandvj, Thomas\_F\_Viator, <Thomas\_F\_Viator>, Shawn.Turner, <Shawn.Turner>, CIA OPA, Benjamin J. Rhode, <Benjamin J. Rhodes>, NSS Press, NSS Press, WH Press, State PA, SullivanJJ, <SullivanJJ>, AdamsDS, <AdamsDS>, FBI Press, CIA OCA  
**Sent:** Fri Sep 14 19:52:25 2012  
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**From:** Nuland, Victoria J [mailto:nulandvj]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 7:39 PM  
**To:** Nuland, Victoria J; NSC Deputy Press Secretary, CIA OPA, Shawn S Turner, CIA OPA, Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS Press, WH Press, State PA, Sullivan, Jacob J; Adams, David S  
**Cc:** CIA OCA  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

I just had a convo with CIA OPA and I now understand that these are being prepared to give to Members of Congress to use with the media.



**Sullivan, Jacob J**

**To:** Sullivan, Jacob J  
Friday, September 14, 2012 9:32 PM  
Nuland, Victoria J  
**Subject:** Re: Revised HPSCI taking points

Talked to Tommy - we can make edits.

---

**From:** Nuland, Victoria J  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 09:23 PM  
**To:** Sullivan, Jacob J  
**Subject:** Fw: Revised HPSCI taking points

Fysa

---

**From:** Nuland, Victoria J  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 09:23 PM  
**To:** CIA OPA  
**Cc:** STATE PA  
**Subject:** Re: Revised HPSCI taking points

These don't resolve all my issues or those of my building leadership. They are consulting w NSS.

---

**From:** CIA OPA  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 08:58 PM  
**To:** Nuland, Victoria J  
**Cc:** STATE PA  
**Subject:** Revised HPSCI taking points

Toria:

We further discussed the HPSCI talking points with your comments and concerns in mind.

The FBI did not have major concerns with the points and offered only a couple of minor suggestions.

Here's the latest version of the points. Please let us know your thoughts ASAP.

Thanks,

CIA OPA

**HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media**  
14 September 2012

- The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September the Agency

notified Embassy Cairo of social media reports calling for a demonstration and encouraging jihadists to break into the Embassy.

- The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence, although the crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals. That being said, there are indications that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.
- The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- The Agency has produced numerous pieces on the threat of extremists linked to al-Qaeda in Benghazi and eastern Libya. Since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
- The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

CIA OPA

Chief, Media Relations  
CIA Office of Public Affairs

CIA OPA

**From:** Rhodes, Benjamin J. [Benjamin J. Rhodes]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 9:34 PM  
**To:** Viator, Tommy; FBI Press; CIA OPA; NulandVJ; Shawn S Turner; CIA OPA; NSS Press; WH Press; State PA; SullivanJJ; AdamsDS; FBI Press; CIA OCA  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

All -

Sorry to be late to this discussion. We need to resolve this in a way that respects all of the relevant equities, particularly the investigation.

There is a ton of wrong information getting out into the public domain from Congress and people who are not particularly informed. Insofar as we have firmed up assessments that don't compromise intel or the investigation, we need to have the capability to correct the record, as there are significant policy and messaging ramifications that would flow from a hardened mis-impression.

We can take this up tomorrow morning at deputies.

**From:** Viator, Tommy  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 09:26 PM.  
**To:** FBI Press; CIA OPA; NulandVJ; <nulandvj>; Shawn Turner; <Shawn.Turner>; CIA OPA; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS Press; WH Press; State PA; SullivanJJ; AdamsDS; <AdamsDS>; FBI Press; FBI Press; CIA OCA  
**Subject:** RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Given the DOJ equities and States desire to run some traps, safe to assume we can hold on this until tomorrow?

-----Original Message-----

**From:** FBI Press  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 09:19 PM Eastern Standard Time.  
**To:** CIA OPA; NulandVJ; Viator, Tommy; Shawn Turner; CIA OPA; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; NSS Press; WH Press; State PA; SullivanJJ; AdamsDS; FBI Press  
**Cc:** CIA OCA  
**Subject:** Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Just a question- but separate from the FBI concerns, has DOJ provided input? They will have to deal with the the prosecution and related legal matters surrounding the federal investigation.

CIA OPA

From:

Sent:

To:

CIA OPA

Friday, September 14, 2012 9:36 PM

Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Vietor, Tommy;

Shawn S Turner;

State PA

FBI Press

CIA OCA

RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

FBI Press

NulandVJ

NSS Press, WH Press

AdamsDS

CIA FO

Cc:

Subject:

Thanks, Ben. Looping in

CIA FO

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:Benjamin.J.Rhodes@cia.gov]

Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:34 PM

To: Vietor, Tommy;

NSS Press, WH Press, State PA

AdamsDS

Cc: CIA OCA

Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

FBI Press

CIA OPA

NulandVJ

Shawn S Turner;

CIA OPA

State PA

FBI Press

SullivanJJ

All -

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Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 09:26 PM

To: FBI Press

NulandVJ

CIA OPA

State PA

SullivanJJ

FBI Press

CIA OCA

Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

NulandVJ

Shawn Turner

CIA OPA

Shawn Turner

CIA OPA

Rhodes, Benjamin J.;

NSS Press, WH Press

SullivanJJ

AdamsDS

AdamsDS

FBI Press

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-----Original Message-----

From: FBI Press

Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 09:19 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: CIA OPA

NulandVJ

Vietor, Tommy; Shawn Turner

CIA OPA

CIA OPA

From: OCA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 0:43 PM  
To: CIA OPA/OCA  
Cc: CIA OCA  
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI talking points

Thanks CIA OPA  
Fyi FBI says AQ (not AQIM) was involved and they are pursuing that theory.

So we are not ahead of law enforcement now.

So are cleared to send to congress?

From: CIA OPA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 09:14 PM  
To: CIA OCA, OCA  
Cc: CIA OCA  
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI talking points

Here's where we stand as of this hour.

Everyone has submitted coordination comments.

The State Department had major reservations with much or most of the document. We revised the document with their concerns in mind. The latest version is below, as sent to State.

CIA OPA

From: CIA OPA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 8:59 PM  
To: nolandvi  
Cc: State PA, CIA OPA/OCA  
Subject: Revised HPSCI talking points

Toria:

We further discussed the HPSCI talking points with your comments and concerns in mind.

The FBI did not have major concerns with the points and offered only a couple of minor suggestions.

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CIA OPA

**HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media**  
**14 September 2012**

The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US

CIA OPA

From:

Sent:

To:

FBI Press

Friday, September 14, 2012 9:44 PM

CIA OPA Benjamin J. Rhodes

Thomas F. Vietor

NulandVJ

Shawn S. Turner

CIA OPA

NSS Press

NSS Press, WH Press, State PA

SullivanJ

AdamsDS

FBI Press

CIA FO

DOJ

Boyd, Dean (NSD) (JMD)

Cc:

Subject:

Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Including DOJ on the e-mail - DOJ and Dean Boyd.

From: CIA OPA

To: Benjamin J. Rhodes

<Benjamin.J.Rhodes>

Thomas F. Vietor

<Thomas.F.Vietor>

FBI Press

NulandVJ

<NulandVJ>

Shawn.Turner

<Shawn.Turner>

CIA OPA

NSS Press, WH Press, State PA

State PA

SullivanJ

<SullivanJ>

AdamsDS

<AdamsDS>

FBI Press

CIA FO

Cc: CIA OCA

Sent: Fri Sep 14 21:36:15 2012

Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

Thanks, Ben. Looping in CIA FO

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:Benjamin.J.Rhodes]

Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:34 PM

To: Vietor, Tommy

FBI Press

CIA OPA

NulandVJ

Shawn S. Turner

CIA OPA

NSS Press, WH Press, State PA

AdamsDS

FBI Press

Cc: CIA OCA

Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI Talking Points for Review

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We can take this up tomorrow morning at deputies.

From: Vietor, Tommy

Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 09:26 PM

To:

FBI Press

CIA OPA

nulandvj

<nulandvj>

Shawn.Turner

<Shawn.Turner>

CIA OPA

CIA OPA

From: CIA OPA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:52 PM  
To: CIA OCA  
Cc: CIA FO CIA OCA  
Subject: Draft Note for Director on HPSCI TPs

CIA OCA

☐ Here's a draft note to the DIRECTOR

Sir - We've tried to work the draft talking points for HPSCI through the coordination process but have run into major problems. Perhaps as a result of the afternoon teleconference, a number of agencies have been looped in. The White House cleared quickly, but State has major concerns. The Bureau cleared with a few comments but asked that Justice, which would handle any criminal prosecution, be brought in. It is evident that will not happen tonight, and Ben Rhodes has asked that this issue be reviewed tomorrow morning at the Deputies' meeting.

Additionally, Eric Schmitt of the NYT contacted us to let us know that he had spoken with Rep. Ruppertsberger, who had given him a readout of your session.

CIA OPA

From: CIA OPA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:52 PM  
To: OCA CIA OCA/OPA  
Cc: CIA OCA  
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI taking points

Nope

From: OCA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:43 PM  
To: CIA OIA/OCA  
Cc: CIA OCA  
Subject: Re: Revised HPSCI taking points

Thanks CIA OPA  
Fyi FBI says AQ (not AQIM) was involved and they are pursuing that theory.

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From: CIA OPA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 09:14 PM  
To: CIA OCA OCA  
Cc: CIA OCA  
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI taking points

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The State Department had major reservations with much or most of the document. We revised the document with their concerns in mind. The latest version is below, as sent to State.

CIA OPA

From: CIA OPA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 8:59 PM  
To: nulanvick  
Cc: State PA CIA OPA/OCA  
Subject: Revised HPSCI taking points

Toria:

We further discussed the HPSCI talking points with your comments and concerns in mind.

The FBI did not have major concerns with the points and offered only a couple of minor suggestions.

Here's the latest version of the points. Please let us know your thoughts ASAP.



CIA OPA

From: CIA OPA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 10:22 PM  
To: FO  
Cc: CIA FO, FO  
Subject: FW: Revised HPSCI taking points

FO - attached below is the latest version of the HPSCI talkers. I will send you another email chain with Ben Rhodes' comment. Cheers CIA OPA

From: CIA OPA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:53 PM  
To: OCA, CIA OPA/OCA  
Cc: CIA OCA  
Subject: RE: Revised HPSCI taking points

Nope

From: OCA  
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To: CIA OPA/OCA  
Cc: CIA OCA  
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Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 09:14 PM  
To: CIA OCA, OCA  
Cc: CIA OCA  
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**HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media**  
**14 September 2012**

- The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September the Agency notified Embassy Cairo of social media reports calling for a demonstration and encouraging jihadists to break into the Embassy.
- The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence, although the crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals. That being said, there are indications that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.
- The wide availability of weapons and experienced fighters in Libya almost certainly contributed to the lethality of the attacks.
- The Agency has produced numerous pieces on the threat of extremists linked to al-Qaeda in Benghazi and eastern Libya. Since April, there have been at least five other attacks against foreign interests in Benghazi by unidentified assailants, including the June attack against the British Ambassador's convoy. We cannot rule out that individuals had previously surveilled the US facilities, also contributing to the efficacy of the attacks.
- The US Government is working with Libyan authorities and intelligence partners in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

CIA OPA  
Chief, Media Relations  
CIA Office of Public Affairs

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HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media

14 September 2012

① • The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. <sup>②</sup> This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and currently available information continues to be evaluated. On 10 September the Agency notified Embassy Cairo of social media reports calling for a demonstration and encouraging jihadists to break into the Embassy.

③ • The investigation is on-going as to who is responsible for the violence. Although the crowd almost certainly was a mix of individuals. That being said, there are indications that Islamic extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

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and  
④ • The US Government is working with Libyan authorities ~~and intelligence partners~~ in an effort to help bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

— NCS  
— DI

— Robert Cordillo  
— Alon Piro  
— Matt Olsen  
— Jake Sullivan  
— Mark Giuliano  
— Lisa Monaco

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— Ben Rhodes

UNCLASSIFIED



From: **CIA OTA**  
Director, Office of Terrorism Analysis  
[Redacted]  
To: **CIA OGC**  
Date: 11/21/2012 01:47 PM

Subject: Fw: DDCIA tasking – IMMEDIATE – by 1100 today  
Director, Office of Terrorism Analysis (9/15) – coord on TPs for HPSCI

To: **CIA OGC**

This message is digitally signed.

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

**CIA OTA**

Director, Office of Terrorism Analysis

Just to complete the loop.

— Forwarded by **CIA OTA** on 11/21/2012 01:45 PM —

From: **CIA OTA**  
To: **CIA DI, NE**  
Cc: **CIA DI, NE**  
Date: 09/15/2012 09:49 AM  
Subject: Re: Fw: DDCIA tasking – IMMEDIATE – by 1100 today (9/15) – coord on TPs for HPSCI

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

They are fine with me. But, pretty sure HPSCI won't like them. :-)

**CIA OTA**

Director, Office of Terrorism Analysis

[Redacted]

**DI**

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

09/15/2012 09:47:46 AM

From: **PI**  
To: **CIA OTA**  
Cc: **DI**, **NE**  
Date: 09/15/2012 09:47 AM  
Subject: Fw: DDCIA tasking – IMMEDIATE – by 1100 today (9/15) – coord on TPs for HPSCI

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Hi,

Please let us know if you have any comments by 10:30.

Thanks!

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**DI**  
Executive Assistant to the DI Front Office

— Forwarded by **DI** on 09/15/2012 09:46 AM —

From:  
To:  
Cc:

**DDCIA FO**

**NCS, FO**

**NCS**

**CEA FO**

**DI, NCS**

Date: 09/15/2012 09:45 AM

Subject: DD CIA tasking – IMMEDIATE – by 1100 today (9/15) – coord on TPs for HPSCI

DDCIA requests right away internal coordination on the enclosed unclass TPs for HPSCI. Please respond ASAP.

Thanks,

**DDCIA-FO**

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### HPSCI White Paper Talking Points for Use with the Media

14 September 2012

- The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex.
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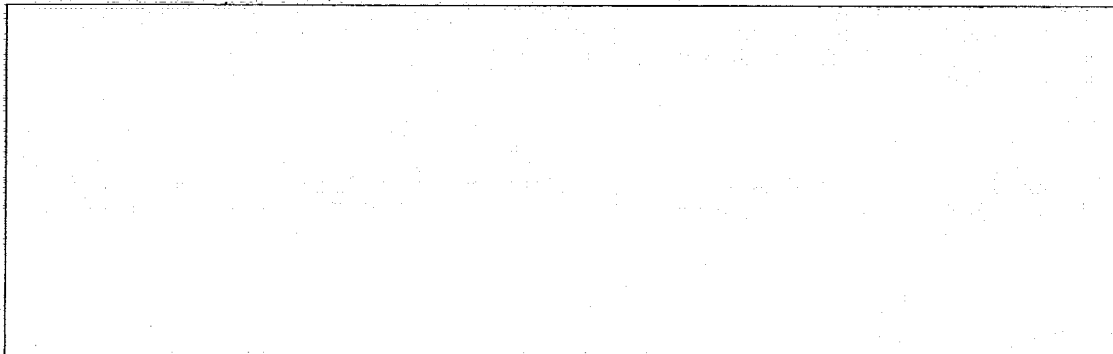


From: Matthew G. Olsen      Subject: [AIN] FW: Unclassified Talking Points  
Date: 09/15/2012 11:09 AM      To: MICHAELJM

Please respond to "Matthew G. Olsen"

History:      This message has been forwarded.

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED



Michael -- TPs sent to Ruppertsberger from ODNI leg.

-----Original Message-----

From: [NCTC/OLA]  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 10:51 AM  
To: Nicholas J Rasmussen; Matthew G. Olsen  
Cc: [NCTC]  
Subject: Unclassified Talking Points

Sirs - Here is what we sent Heather Molino (Ruppertsberger).

It's very early, less than 72 hours since the attack. So there is a lot we don't know.

As time progresses, we are learning more, but we still don't have a complete picture of what happened. Fortunately we have the FBI leading the investigation of the attack. Regrettably they have all too much experience in these matters.

At this point, we are not aware of any actionable intelligence that this attack was planned or imminent. The intelligence community is combing through reporting from before and after the attack to determine the full extent of who was involved.

Libya is awash in weapons - unconventional weapons were stored in unsecured locations across the country. Following the revolution, there are still many

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well-armed militia remaining.

Since the revolution, we have some indicators al-Qa'ida and other groups are seeking to establish a presence in Libya. Remember some senior al-Qa'ida members such as Abu Yahya al-Libi came from Libya.

We are very cautious about drawing any firm conclusions at this point with regard to the identification and motivation of the attackers. The IC is working aggressively to this end, and the FBI will continue its investigation.

Unrest in the Middle East creates a permissive environment for terrorists. In the days and weeks ahead, we need to be especially vigilant in protecting our people.

--- NCTC/OLA  
Legislative Liaison  
Office of the Director  
of National Intelligence



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From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. Subject: [AIN] RE:  
Date: 09/15/2012 11:12 AM To: 'michaelm [redacted] Robert Cardillo [redacted]  
alanrp [redacted] matt.olsen [redacted]  
sullivanj [redacted] mark.giuliano [redacted]  
Cc: CIA OCA/OPA  
FO CIA FO

Please respond to "Rhodes,  
Benjamin J."

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

-----  
This is good by me.

-----Original Message-----

From: michaelm [redacted] [mailto:michaelm [redacted]]  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM  
To: Robert Cardillo [redacted] alanrp [redacted] matt.olsen [redacted]  
sullivanj [redacted]; mark.giuliano [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.;  
jcinalli [redacted] lisa.monaco [redacted]  
Cc: CIA OCA/OPA CIA FO  
Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

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--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths US citizens.

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From: Matthew G. Olsen      Subject: [AIN] RE:  
Date: 09/15/2012 11:15 AM      To: 'Rhodes, Benjamin J.' MICHAELM, Robert Cardillo, Alan  
R Pine, sullivanj, mark.giuliano  
icingl, lisa.monaco  
Cc: CIA OCA/OPA, FO  
CIA FO

Please respond to "Matthew  
G. Olsen"

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Michael -- This looks good to me.

-Matt

\*\*\*\*\*

These are the points that ONDI leg sent to Ruppertsberger yesterday afternoon based on his request:

It's very early, less than 72 hours since the attack. So there is a lot we don't know.

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-----Original Message-----

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:Benjamin\_J\_Rhodes] [redacted]  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:12 AM  
To: MICHAELJM; Robert Cardillo; Alan R Pino; Matthew G. Olsen;  
sullivanjj [redacted] mark.giuliano [redacted] jcingli [redacted]  
lisa.monaco [redacted]  
Cc: CIA OCA/DRA [redacted] CIA FO [redacted]  
Subject: RE:

This is good by me.

-----Original Message-----

From: michaeljm@ucia.gov [mailto:michaeljm] [redacted]  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM  
To: Robert Cardillo [redacted] alanrp [redacted] matt.olsen [redacted]  
sullivanjj [redacted] mark.giuliano [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.;  
jcingli [redacted] lisa.monaco [redacted]  
Cc: CIA OCA/DRA [redacted] CIA FO [redacted]  
Subject:

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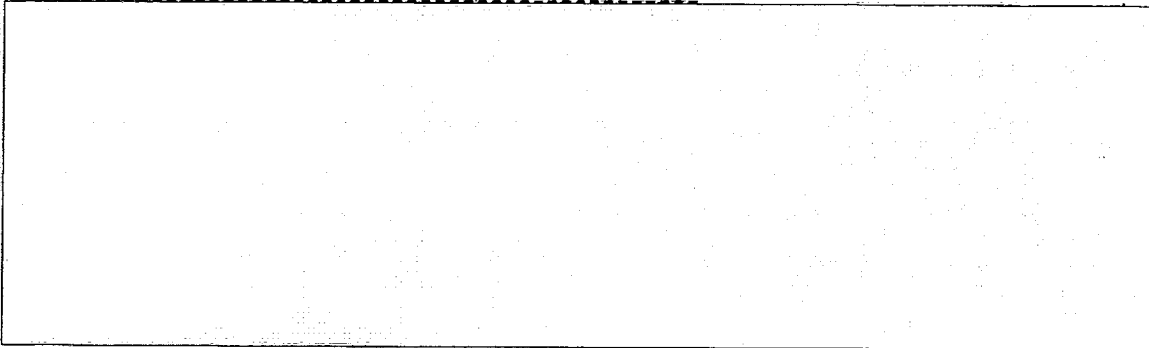
UNCLASSIFIED



From: Matthew G. Olsen  
Date: 09/15/2012 11:16 AM  
Subject: [AIN] RE:  
To: 'Rhodes, Benjamin J.' MICHAELJM, Robert Cardillo, Alan R Pino, sullivanj, mark.giuliano, jcingl, lisa.monaco, Mark Giuliano  
Cc: CIA OCA/OPA, CIA FO

Please respond to "Matthew G. Olsen"

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED



Adding the correct email for Giuliano.

-----Original Message-----

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:Benjamin\_J\_Rhodes]  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:12 AM  
To: MICHAELJM; Robert Cardillo; Alan R Pino; Matthew G. Olsen; sullivanj; mark.giuliano; jcingl; lisa.monaco  
Cc: CIA OCA/OPA, CIA FO  
Subject: RE:

This is good by me.

-----Original Message-----

From: michaelj [mailto:michaelj]  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM  
To: Robert Cardillo, alanrp, matt.olsen, sullivanj, mark.giuliano, Rhodes, Benjamin J.; jcingl, lisa.monaco  
Cc: CIA OCA/OPA, CIA FO  
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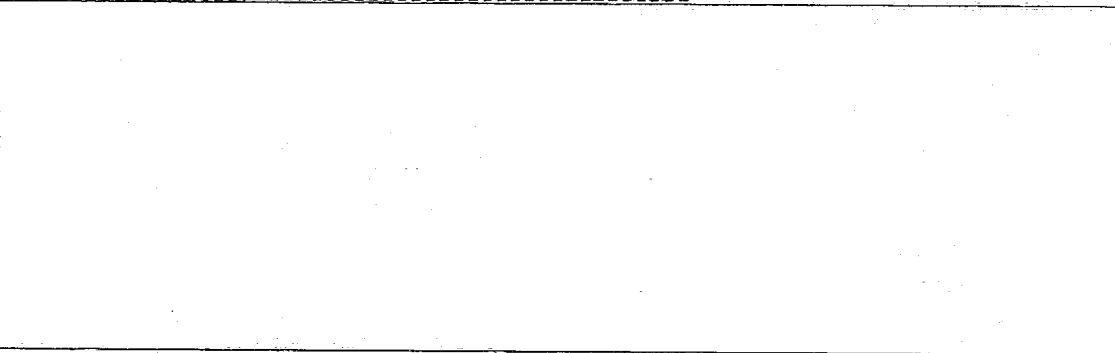
From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. Subject: [A/N] RE:

Date: 09/15/2012 11:25 AM

To: 'michaelm [redacted] Robert Cardillo [redacted]  
alanrp [redacted] matt.olsen [redacted]  
sullivanj [redacted] mark.giuliano [redacted]  
Cc: CIA OCA CIA OPA  
FO CIA FO

Please respond to "Rhodes,  
Benjamin J."

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One edit for accuracy:

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US {cut: Consulate} diplomatic post in Benghazi and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths US citizens.

-----Original Message-----

From: michaelm [redacted] [mailto:michaelm [redacted]]  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM  
To: Robert Cardillo [redacted] alanrp [redacted] matt.olsen [redacted]  
sullivanj [redacted] mark.giuliano [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.;  
jcingli [redacted] lisa.monaco [redacted]  
Cc: CIA OCA, CIA OPA, FO, CIA FO  
Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

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analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

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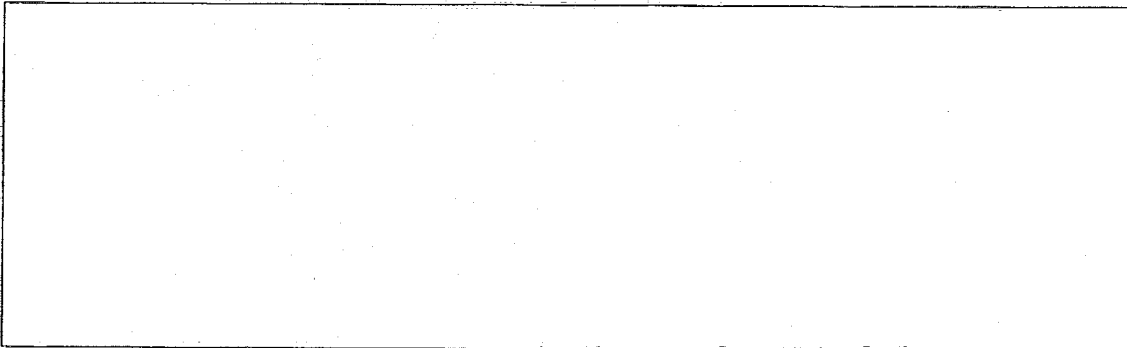
From: Sullivan, Jacob J  
Date: 09/15/2012 11:26 AM

Subject: [AIN] RE:  
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J., michaejm; Robert Cardillo, alanrp,  
matt.olsen, mark.giuliano, jcingli, lisa.monaco

Cc: CIA OCA, OPA FO CIA FO

Please respond to "Sullivan,  
Jacob J"

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This looks good. Two small edits:-

1. We call it "the US mission" or the "US diplomatic post" because it is not actually a Consulate.
2. There is a missing "of" in the third tid.

-----Original Message-----

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:Benjamin.J.Rhodes] [redacted]  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:12 AM  
To: 'michaejm' [redacted]; Robert Cardillo [redacted] alanrp [redacted]  
matt.olsen [redacted] Sullivan, Jacob J; mark.giuliano [redacted]  
jcingli [redacted] lisa.monaco [redacted]  
Cc: CIA OCA [redacted] CIA OPA [redacted] FO [redacted]  
CIA FO [redacted]  
Subject: RE:

This is good by me.

-----Original Message-----

From: michaejm [redacted] [mailto:michaejm] [redacted]  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM  
To: Robert Cardillo [redacted] alanrp [redacted] matt.olsen [redacted]  
sullivan [redacted] mark.giuliano [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.;  
jcingli [redacted] lisa.monaco [redacted]  
Cc: CIA OCA [redacted] CIA OPA [redacted] FO [redacted]  
CIA FO [redacted]  
Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US

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Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

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--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

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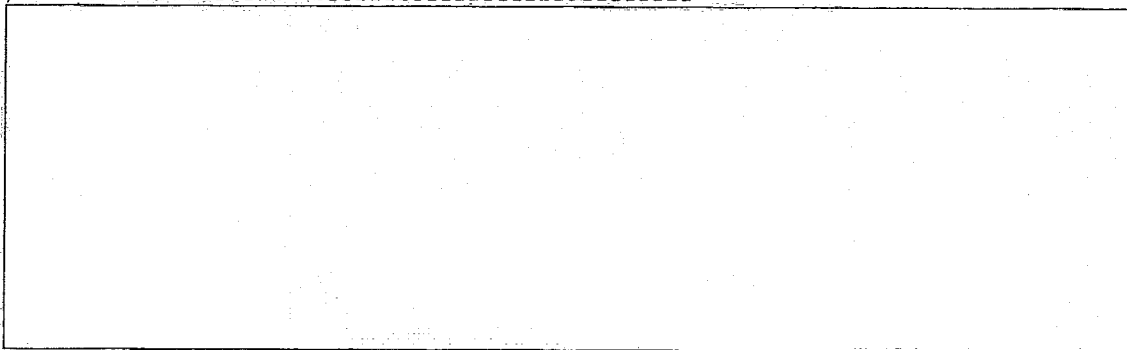


From: Monaco, Lisa (NSD) Subject: [AIN] RE:  
Date: 09/15/2012 11:46 AM

To: 'michael' [redacted] Robert Cardillo [redacted]  
alanrp [redacted] matt.olsen [redacted]  
sullivan [redacted] mark.giuliano [redacted]  
Cc: CIA OCA CIA OPA  
FO CIA FO

Please respond to "Monaco,  
Lisa (NSD)"

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Michael - DOJ and FBI are ok with these. thanks

-----Original Message-----

From: michael [redacted] [mailto:michael [redacted]]  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM  
To: Robert Cardillo [redacted] alanrp [redacted] matt.olsen [redacted]  
sullivan [redacted] mark.giuliano [redacted] Benjamin J. Rhodes [redacted]  
jcipoli [redacted] Monaco, Lisa (NSD)  
Cc: CIA OCA, CIA OPA, FO, CIA FO  
Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

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--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths US citizens.

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From: Inglis, John C.  
Date: 09/15/2012 11:58 AM

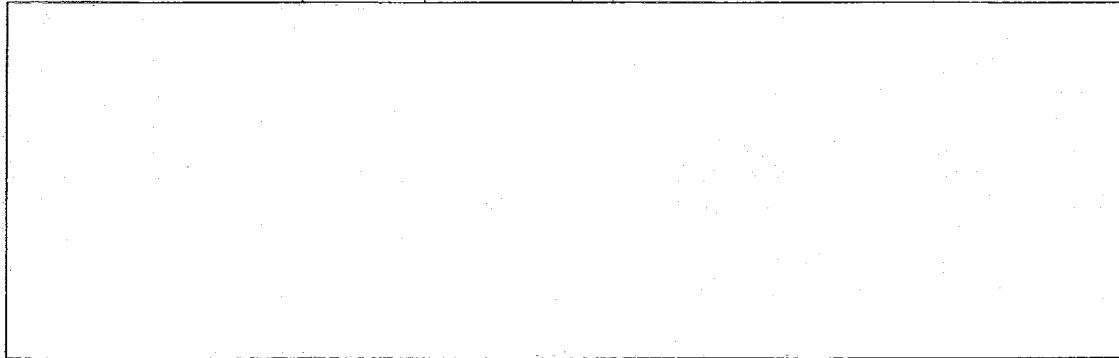
Subject: [A]N[RE]

To: 'Sullivan, Jacob J', Rhodes, Benjamin J.  
michaeljm [redacted] Robert Cardillo  
alanrp [redacted] matt.olsen [redacted]

Cc: CIA OCA CIA OPA  
FO CIA FO  
Inglis, John C., Fleisch,

Please respond to "Inglis,  
John C"

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NSA concurs with the content and cast of the bullets. Thanks for the chance to review.

Chris Inglis

-----Original Message-----

From: michaeljm [redacted] [mailto:michaeljm [redacted]]  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM  
To: Robert Cardillo [redacted] alanrp [redacted] matt.olsen [redacted]  
sullivanj [redacted] mark.giuliano [redacted] Rhodes, Benjamin J.  
jcingli [redacted] lisa.monaco [redacted]  
Cc: CIA OCA CIA OPA FO  
CIA FO  
Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

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CIA OCA

From: CIA OCA  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:03 PM  
To: MICHAEL M  
Cc: CIA OPA FO CIA FO  
Subject: Re:

Michael,

Looks like just about everyone has concurred. I am standing by to forward the latest version to the committees.

V/r

DCA

----- Original Message -----

From: MICHAEL M  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM  
To: Robert Cardillo; Alan R Pino; Matthew G. Olsen; 'sullivanj' [redacted]  
<sullivanj [redacted]>; 'mark.giuliano' [redacted] <mark.giuliano [redacted]>  
'Benjamin J. Rhodes' [redacted] <Benjamin.J.Rhodes [redacted]> 'jcingli' [redacted]  
<jcingli [redacted]> 'Lisa Monaco' [redacted] <lisa.monaco [redacted]>  
Cc: CIA OCA, CIA OPA FO CIA FO  
Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

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--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

CIA FO

From: CIA FO  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:13 PM  
To: CIA OCA MICHAELJM  
Subject: CIA OPA FO

OCA

Before going to the committees, may I please ask you to send these to the Director? He needs to know in advance what is going to the Hill in his name, even if it going with the force of full interagency coordination.

Cheers, CIA FO

Cheers, CIA FO

----- Original Message -----

From: CIA OCA  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:02 PM  
To: MICHAELJM  
Cc: CIA OPA FO CIA FO  
Subject: Re:

Michael,

Looks like just about everyone has concurred. I am standing by to forward the latest version to the committees.

r

OCA

----- Original Message -----

From: MICHAELJM  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM  
To: Robert Cardillo; Alan R Pino; Matthew G. Olsen; 'sullivanj';  
<sullivanj>; 'mark.giuliano'; <mark.giuliano>;  
'Benjamin J. Rhodes'; <Benjamin J. Rhodes>; 'jcingli';  
<jcingli>; 'lisa.monaco'; <lisa.monaco>;  
Cc: CIA OCA, CIA OPA FO CIA FO  
Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

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-The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths US citizens.

CIA OPA

From: CIA OPA  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:14 PM  
To: CIA OPA MICHAELJM  
Cc: FO CIA FO  
Subject: RE:

Here's where we are with the tweaks after tweaks from Ben and Jake:

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US diplomatic post in Benghazi and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

-----Original Message-----

From: CIA OPA  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:03 PM  
To: MICHAELJM  
Cc: CIA OPA, FO, CIA FO  
Subject: Re:

Michael,

Looks like just about everyone has concurred. I am standing by to forward the latest version to the committees.

V/r

OCA

----- Original Message -----

From: MICHAELJM  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM  
To: Robert Cardillo; Alan R Pino; Matthew G. Olsen; 'sullivanj';  
<sullivanj>; 'mark.giuliano'; <mark.giuliano>;  
'Benjamin J. Rhodes'; <Benjamin J. Rhodes>; 'jcingli';  
<jcingli>; 'lisa.monaco'; <lisa.monaco>;  
Cc: CIA OCA, CIADPA, FO, CIA FO  
Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

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From: Robert Cardillo      Subject: [AIN] Re:  
Date: 09/15/2012 12:24 PM      To: MICHAELJ, Alan R Pino.  
Please respond to Robert  
Cardillo

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

I am, Michael.

----- Original Message -----  
From: MICHAELJ  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:20 PM  
To: Robert Cardillo; Alan R Pino  
Subject: Fw:

Robert, Alan--Everyone else has coordinated and HPSCI is waiting not so  
patiently. Are you guys good? Michael

----- Original Message -----  
From: CIA OPA  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:13 PM  
To: CIA MICHAELJ  
Cc: OPA CIA FO  
Subject: RE:

Here's where we are with the tweaks after tweaks from Ben and Jake:

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in  
Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in  
Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US diplomatic post in  
Benghazi and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists  
participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and  
analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan  
authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US  
citizens.

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84



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-----Original Message-----

From: CIA  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:03 PM  
To: MICHAELJ  
Cc: CIA OPA, CIA FO, CIA FO  
Subject: Re:

Michael,

Looks like just about everyone has concurred. I am standing by to forward the latest version to the committees.

V/r

CIA OPA

----- Original Message -----

From: MICHAELJ  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM  
To: Robert Cardillo; Alan R Pino; Matthew G. Olsen; 'sullivanj'  
<sullivanj@cia.gov>; 'mark.giuliano'  
<mark.giuliano@cia.gov>; 'Benjamin J. Rhodes'  
<Benjamin.J.Rhodes@cia.gov>; 'jcingli'  
<jcingli@cia.gov>; 'lisa.monaco'  
<lisa.monaco@cia.gov>  
Cc: CIA OPA, CIA OPA, CIA FO  
Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

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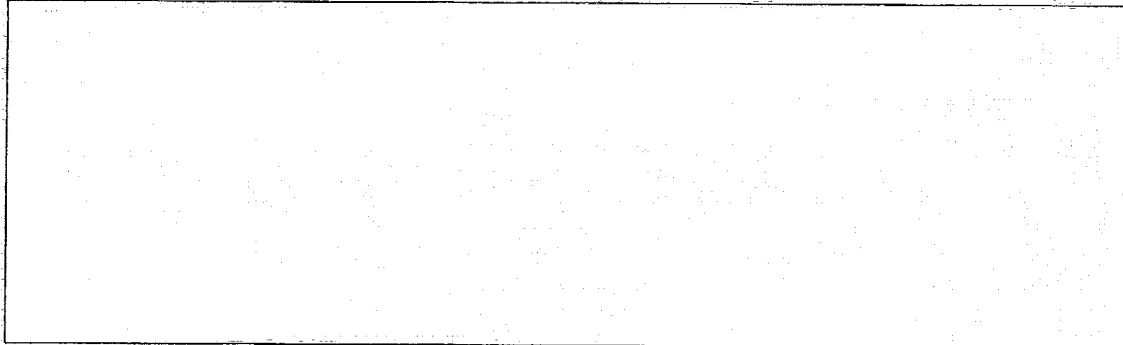


From: CIA FO  
Date: 09/15/2012 12:32 PM

Subject: [AIN] RE:  
To: MICHAELJM, CIA OPA CIA OCA  
Cc: CIA FO

Please respond to  
CIA FO

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This is to confirm in writing: I just spoke with Alan on the phone. Allen said he concurred with the TPs.

-----Original Message-----

From: MICHAELJM  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:19 PM  
To: CIA OPA, CIA OCA  
Cc: CIA FO  
Subject: Re:

Thanks. I will bug Robert and Alan.

-----Original Message-----

From: CIA OPA  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:13 PM  
To: CIA OGC, MICHAELJM  
Cc: CIA FO, CIA FO  
Subject: RE:

Here's where we are with the tweaks after tweaks from Ben and Jake:

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US diplomatic post in Benghazi and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

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86

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-----Original Message-----

From: CIA OCA  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:03 PM  
To: MICHAELJM  
Cc: CIA OPA, CIA FO  
Subject: Re:

Michael,

Looks like just about everyone has concurred. I am standing by to forward the latest version to the committees.

V/r  
CIA OGC

----- Original Message -----

From: MICHAELJM  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM  
To: Robert Cardillo; Alan R Pino; Matthew G. Olsen; 'sullivanjj'  
<sullivanjj>; 'mark.giuliano' <mark.giuliano>  
'Benjamin J. Rhodes' <Benjamin.J.Rhodes>  
'jcingli' <jcingli> 'lisa.monaco'  
<lisa.monaco>  
Cc: CIA OCA, CIA OPA, CIA FO, CIA FO  
Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

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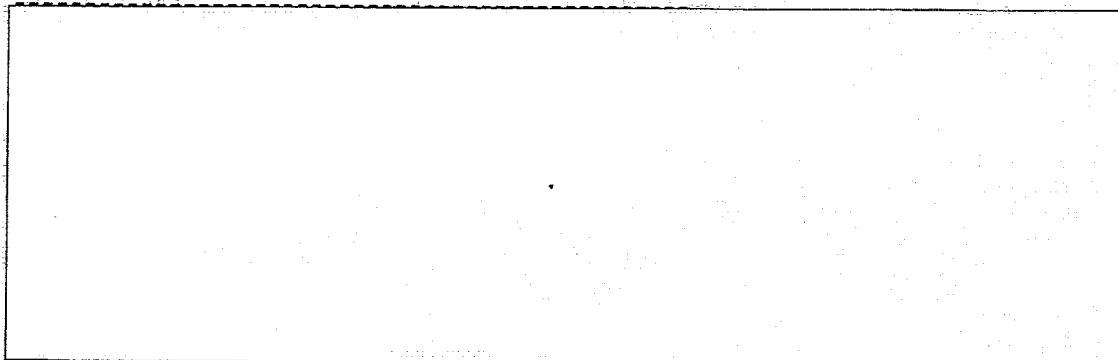
UNCLASSIFIED



From: **CIA OCA** Subject: [AIN] Re:  
Date: 09/15/2012 12:43 PM To: MICHAELJM

Please respond to  
**CIA OCA**

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED



Copy...on it.

----- Original Message -----

From: MICHAELJM  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:37 PM  
To: **CIA OPA, CIA OCA**  
Cc: **CIA FO, CIA FO**  
Subject: Re:

**CIA OCA** everyone has coordinated. **OPA** has captured the changes below. Please run the points by the Director, then get them to HPSCI. I spoke to the Director earlier about State's deep concerns about mentioning the warnings and the other work done on this, but you will want to reemphasize in your note to DCIA. Thanks. Michael

----- Original Message -----

From: **CIA OPA**  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:13 PM  
To: **CIA OCA, MICHAELJM**  
Cc: **CIA FO, CIA FO**  
Subject: RE:

Here's where we are with the tweaks after tweaks from Ben and Jake:

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US diplomatic post in Benghazi and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

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--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US

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citizens.

-----Original Message-----

From: CIA OCA  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:03 PM  
To: MICHAEL  
Cc: CIA OCA, CIA FO, CIA FO  
Subject: Re:

Michael,

Looks like just about everyone has concurred. I am standing by to forward the latest version to the committees.

V/r

OCA

----- Original Message -----

From: MICHAEL  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM  
To: Robert [redacted] Alan R Pino; Matthew G. Olsen; 'sullivanj' [redacted]  
<sullivanj [redacted]> 'mark.giuliano' [redacted] <mark.giuliano [redacted]>;  
'Benjamin J. Rhodes' [redacted] <Benjamin.J.Rhodes [redacted]>;  
'jcingli' [redacted] <jcingli [redacted]> 'lisa.monaco' [redacted]  
<lisa.monaco [redacted]>  
Cc: CIA OCA, CIA OCA, CIA FO, CIA FO  
Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

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89

**Sullivan, Jacob J**

---

**From:** Sullivan, Jacob J  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:44 PM  
**To:** Nuland, Victoria J

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

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CIA OCA

From:

CIA OCA

Sent:

Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:51 PM

To:

DAVIDHP74

Cc:

MICHAELJM; CIA FO DDCIA/COS, CIA FO CIA OPA CIA OCA

Subject:

Hill Talking Points

Sir,

Here are the inter agency approved points for the Hill. They were worked through the DC this morning and were then shot out for final approval. As mentioned last night, State had voiced strong concerns with the original text due to the criminal investigation. That said, I understand NSS is working on all members briefing this coming week and these are a good starting point.

With your concurrence we will get them to our oversight committees and to leadership.

V/r,

~~OC~~ OCA

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US diplomatic post in Benghazi and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

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USUN

From: USUN  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 2:21 PM  
To: USUN  
Subject: Re: SBU/CLOSEHOLD: 0800 SVTS on Movie Protests/Violence

Please do--I have not reached out.

Best,  
USUN

---

From: USUN  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 02:15 PM  
To: USUN  
Subject: Re: SBU/CLOSEHOLD: 0800 SVTS on Movie Protests/Violence

I'm going to email Jake on the libya points references below unless either of you are linked in to this effort. Pls let me know.

---

From: USUN  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 01:23 PM  
To: Rice, Susan E (USUN); USUN ; DiCarlo, Rosemary A (USUN); USUN  
Cc: USUN  
Subject: SBU/CLOSEHOLD: 0800 SVTS on Movie Protests/Violence



Libya:

- HPSCI request: Late this week, CIA Director Petraeus gave the HPSCI a "hots spots" briefing and was asked for unclassified talking points that its members could use about incident in Benghazi. (Apparently NCTC Director Matt Olson received a similar committee from a congressional committee.) The first draft apparently seemed unsuitable (based on conversations on the SVTS and afterwards) because they seemed to encourage the reader to infer incorrectly that the CIA had warned about a specific attack on our embassy. On the SVTS, Morell noted that these points were not good and he had taken a heavy editing hand to them. He noted that he would be happy to work with Jake Sullivan and Rhodes to develop appropriate talking points. McDonough, on Rhodes's behalf, deferred to Sullivan. It was agreed that Jake would work closely with the intelligence community (within a small group) to finalize points on Saturday that could be shared with HPSCI. I spoke to Jake immediately after the SVTS and noted that you were doing the Sunday morning shows and would need to be aware of the final posture that these points took. He committed to ensure that we were updated in advance of the Sunday shows. I specifically mentioned USUN as the one coordinating your preparations for the shows and also strongly encouraged him to loop in USUN during the process.

CIA OCA

From: DAVIDHP74  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 2:27 PM  
To: CIA OCA  
Cc: MICHAELJM; CIA FO DD CIA/OS, FO CIA-OPA CIA-OCA  
Subject: RE: Hill Talking Points.

No mention of the cable to Cairo, either? Frankly, I'd just as soon not use this, then... NSS's call, to be sure; however, this is certainly not what Vice Chairman RUPPERSBERGER was hoping to get for unclas use. Regardless, thx for the great work -

-----Original Message-----

From: CIA OCA  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:51 PM  
To: DAVIDHP74  
Cc: MICHAELJM; CIA-FO DD CIA/OS, FO CIA-OPA CIA OCA  
Subject: Hill Talking Points.

Sir,

Here are the inter agency approved points for the Hill. They were worked through the DC this morning and were then shot out for final approval. As mentioned last night, State had voiced strong concerns with the original text due to the criminal investigation. That said, I understand NSS is working on all members briefing this coming week and these are a good starting point.

With your concurrence we will get them to our oversight committees and to leadership.

V/r,  
OCA

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US diplomatic post in Benghazi and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

**Sullivan, Jacob J**

---

**From:** Sullivan, Jacob J  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2012 2:44 PM  
**To:** USUN  
**Cc:** USUN  
**Subject:** Re: Libya - Unclass IC pts

Coming your way.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** USUN  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2012 02:33 PM  
**To:** Sullivan, Jacob J  
**Cc:** USUN  
**Subject:** Libya - Unclass IC pts

Jake - understand from USUN that you're working a set of unclass IC pts on libya for the Hill. If these are going to be finalized by Sunday am (or COB today), can we get a copy for Susan to ensure we're on the same msg? Happy to have USUN work with whomever on the State team is handling this, unless it's you - in which case happy to get them directly. Whatever is easiest.

Many thx.

USUN

**Sullivan, Jacob J**

From: Sullivan, Jacob J  
t: Saturday, September 15, 2012 2:44 PM  
USUN  
Subject: Fw:

Check out the below. You and USUN should confirm w Ben that Susan can deploy tomorrow.

----- Original Message -----

From: Sullivan, Jacob J  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:26 AM  
To: 'Rhodes, Benjamin J.' <Benjamin.J.Rhodes@>; 'michaejm@>  
<michaejm@>; Robert.Cardillo@> <Robert.Cardillo>; alanrp@>  
<alanrp@>; matt.olsen@> <matt.olsen@>; mark.giuliano@>  
<mark.giuliano@>; jcingli@> <jcingli@>; lisa.monaco@>  
<lisa.monaco@>  
Cc: CIA OCA CIA OPA CIA FO  
Subject: RE:

This looks good. Two small edits:

1. We call it "the US mission" or the "US diplomatic post" because it is not actually a Consulate.
2. There is a missing "of" in the third tic.

-----Original Message-----

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:Benjamin.J.Rhodes@]  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:12 AM  
To: 'michaejm@>; Robert.Cardillo@>; alanrp@>; matt.olsen@>;  
Sullivan, Jacob J; mark.giuliano@>; jcingli@>; lisa.monaco@>  
CIA OPA CIA OCA FO CIA FO  
Subject: RE:

This is good by me.

-----Original Message-----

From: michaejm@ [mailto:michaejm@]  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM  
To: Robert.Cardillo@>; alanrp@>; matt.olsen@>; sullivanj@>;  
mark.giuliano@>; Rhodes, Benjamin J.; jcingli@>; lisa.monaco@>  
Cc: CIA OCA CIA OPA FO CIA FO  
Subject:

Per the discussion at Deputies, here are the revised TPs for HPSCI. Let me know what you think.

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US Consulate and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths US citizens.

CIA OCA

From: CIA OCA  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 3:09 PM  
To: MICHAELJ; CIA OPA  
Cc: FO CIA FO  
Subject: Re:

The email has been sent to the Hill.

V/r

OCA

----- Original Message -----

From: MICHAELJ  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:37 PM  
To: CIA OPA CIA OCA  
Cc: FO CIA FO  
Subject: Re:

OCA everyone has coordinated. OPA has captured the changes below. Please run the points by the Director, then get them to HPSCI. I spoke to the Director earlier about State's deep concerns about mentioning the warnings and the other work done on this, but you will want to reemphasize in your note to DCIA. Thanks. Michael

----- Original Message -----

From: CIA OPA  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:13 PM  
To: CIA OCA MICHAELJ  
Cc: FO CIA FO  
Subject: RE:

Here's where we are with the tweaks after tweaks from Ben and Jake:

--The currently available information suggests that the demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the US Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault against the US diplomatic post in Benghazi and subsequently its annex. There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations.

--This assessment may change as additional information is collected and analyzed and as currently available information continues to be evaluated.

--The investigation is on-going, and the US Government is working with Libyan authorities to bring to justice those responsible for the deaths of US citizens.

-----Original Message-----

From: CIA OCA  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 12:03 PM  
To: MICHAELJ  
Cc: CIA OPA, FO, CIA FO  
Subject: Re:

Michael,

USUN

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [Benjamin\_J.\_Rhodes@]  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 7:12 PM  
To: USUN NSC Deputy Press Secretary  
Subject: Re:

Yup

From: USUN  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 05:59 PM  
To: Rhodes, Benjamin J.; Vietor, Tommy  
Subject: FW:

Is this the final language you want to use on Benghazi? Have short window to get her something on paper soon.

----- Original Message -----

From: Sullivan, Jacob J  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 02:43 PM  
To: USUN  
Subject: Fw:

Check out the below. You and USUN should confirm w Ben that Susan can deploy tomorrow.

----- Original Message -----

From: Sullivan, Jacob J  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:26 AM  
To: 'Rhodes, Benjamin J.' <Benjamin\_J.\_Rhodes@>; 'michaeljm@' <michaeljm@>;  
Robert.Cardillo@ <Robert.Cardillo@>; alanrp@ <alanrp@>; matt.olsen@ <matt.olsen@>;  
<matt.olsen@>; mark.giuliano@ <mark.giuliano@>; jcingli@ <jcingli@>;  
lisa.monaco@ <lisa.monaco@>;  
Cc: CIA OCA CIA OPA FO  
Subject: RE:

This looks good. Two small edits:

1. We call it "the US mission" or the "US diplomatic post" because it is not actually a Consulate.
2. There is a missing "of" in the third tic.

-----Original Message-----

From: Rhodes, Benjamin J. [mailto:Benjamin\_J.\_Rhodes@]  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:12 AM  
To: 'michaeljm@'; Robert.Cardillo@; alanrp@; matt.olsen@ Sullivan, Jacob J;  
mark.giuliano@; jcingli@; lisa.monaco@  
Cc: CIA OCA CIA OPA FO CIA FJ  
Subject: RE:

This is good by me.

-----Original Message-----

From: michaeljm@ [mailto:michaeljm@]  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2012 11:08 AM  
To: Robert.Cardillo@; alanrp@; matt.olsen@; sullivanji@; mark.giuliano@; Rhodes,